

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 EUR-25 NSC-10 PM-07 DODE-00 DRC-01 /073 W

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R 020116Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7142

UNCLAS TOKYO 12661

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: EXCERPTS OF MAINICHI POLL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

SUMMARY: SEPT 30 MAINICHI SHIMBUN PUBLISHED RESULTS OF NATIONAL POLL CONDUCTED SEPT 13-16 AMONG 4,116 SAMPLE OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS. OF 10 QUESTIONS RELEASED, FIVE DEALT WITH FOREIGN RELATIONS TOPICS. HIGHLIGHTS: (A) MAJORITIES OF SAMPLE WOULD LIKE TO SEE JAPAN MAINTAIN EXISTING FRIENDLY RELATIONS, OR PROMOTE EVEN CLOSER TIES, WITH US, SOVIET UNION AND PRC. IN TERMS OF NEED TO IMPROVE RELATIONS, PRC RATED FIRST BY 62 PERCENT; SOVIET UNION SECOND BY 44 PERCENT; THEN US BY 25 PERCENT OF SAMPLE. (B) ASKED TO NAME ONE COUNTRY WITH WHICH IT IS MOST IMPORTANT FOR JAPAN TO MAINTAIN CLOSE TIES, 45 PERCENT CITED US, 35 PERCENT PRC, AND 4 PERCENT SOVIET UNION. IN DETAILED DATA REPORTED BELOW, FIGURES IN PARENTHESES ARE RESULTS 1971 MAINICHI POLL. END SUMMARY.

1. CONSIDERING RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, WHAT DO YOU THINK JAPAN'S DIPLOMACY TOWARD THE US IN THE FUTURE SHOULD BE? (A) SHOULD EXERT EFFORTS TO PROMOTE CLOSER FRIENDLY RELATIONS THAN BEFORE 25 (26); (B) MAINTAIN SAME RELATIONS AS BEFORE 52 (51); (C) NO NEED TO BE AS FRIENDLY AS BEFORE 16 (16); (D) OTHER, NO ANSWER 7 (7).

2. HOW ABOUT RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION? (A) SHOULD EXERT  
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EFFORTS TO PROMOTE CLOSER FRIENDLY RELATIONS THAN BEFORE 44

(46); (B) MAINTAIN SAME RELATIONS AS BEFORE 41 (41); (C) NO  
NEED TO BE AS FRIENDLY AS BEFORE 5 (3); (D) OTHER, NO ANSWER  
10 (10).

3. ONE YEAR HAS PASSED SINCE RELATIONS WERE NORMALIZED WITH  
CHINA. LOOKING AHEAD, HOW DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD CONDUCT  
OUR RELATIONS WITH CHINA? (A) EXERT GREATER EFFORTS THAN IN  
PAST YEAR TO PROMOTE CLOSER FRIENDLY RELATIONS 62; (B) MAIN-  
TAIN SAME RELATIONS AS DURING PAST YEAR 27; (C) NO NEED TO BE  
AS FRIENDLY AS IN PAST YEAR 3; (D) OTHER, NO ANSWER 8.

4. WITH WHICH OF THE COUNTRIES LISTED DO YOU THINK IT IS MOST  
IMPORTANT FOR JAPAN TO MAINTAIN CLOSE TIES? (A) USA 45; (B)  
SOVIET UNION 4; (C) CHINA 35; (D) OTHER, NO ANSWER 16.  
(NOTE: IN SIMILAR QUESTION IN APRIL 73 ASAHI SHIMBUN POLL,  
CHINA WAS RATED AHEAD OF THE US AS COUNTRY WITH WHICH JAPAN  
SHOULD MAINTAIN CLOSEST FRIENDLY RELATIONS IN THE FUTURE.)

5. WHAT IS YOUR OPINION CONCERNING THE REVERSION OF THE NORTHERN  
TERRITORIES OF HABOMAI, SHIKOTAN, KUNASHIRI AND ETOROFU?  
(A) SHOULD STRONGLY REQUEST FOR THEIR REVERSION 33; (B) SHOULD  
NEGOTIATE PATIENTLY FOR THEM 37; (C) CAN NOT HELP BUT TO RELY  
ON GOODWILL OF OTHER PARTY 16; (D) NOT REASONABLE TO SEEK  
REVERSION 2; (E) OTHER, NO ANSWER 12.  
CARTER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLLING STATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kellerpr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13-Dec-2001 by bryansd0>; APPROVED <07 FEB 2002 by kellerpr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EXCERPTS OF MAINICHI POLL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS SUMMARY: SEPT 30 MAINICHI SHIMBUN PUBLISHED RESULTS OF NATIONAL  
**TAGS:** PFOR, JA  
**To:** USIA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005